

Message Text

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R 072215Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

UNCLAS STATE 046263

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, HA

SUBJECT: NEED FOR COFFEE STABILIZATION FUND EXPERT ON AID

LOAN PROJECT IN HAITI

1. AID IS DESIGNING A LOAN FOR SMALL FARMER DEVELOPMENT CONCENTRATING ON COFFEE PRODUCTION IN HAITI. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT IS TO INCREASE THE CASH INCOME OF SMALL COFFEE GROWERS BY PROVIDING AN INTERGRATED PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE. AID DESCRIBES PROGRAM AS: (A) THE STRENGTHENING OF THE INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COFFEE SUB-SECTOR WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF FIVE REGIONAL CENTERS; (B) THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF THE NECESSARY TECHNOLOGICAL, FINANCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL INPUT PACKAGE, INCLUDING RESEARCH, INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVED RUST-RESISTANT COFFEE VARIETIES, AND AGRICULTURAL CREDIT; AND (C) PROVISION OF A STABILIZATION FUND TO ASSURE THE FARMER OF A FAIR PRICE FOR HIS PRODUCT RELATIVE TO THE EXPORT PRICE.

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2. AID IS SEEKING A HIGH CALIBER SPECIALIST, PREFERABLY FRENCH SPEAKING, FOR THE STABILIZATION PORTION OF THE PROJECT. ESSENTIALLY, THE INDIVIDUAL SHOULD BE KNOWLEDGEABLE IN THE ORGANIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATE STABILIZATION FUND SYSTEMS. HE WILL BE REQUIRED TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF A STABILIZATION FUND AND TO DEVELOP REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUCH A FUND. EMPLOYMENT WOULD BE FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN APRIL 15, 1974 AND MAY 3, 1974.

3. THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING AN EXPERT EITHER FROM OR THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION WAS DISCUSSED ON MARCH 1 WITH ALEXANDRE BELTRAO DURING HIS VISIT WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. BELTRAO MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY THAT MARK VANDERSTEEN OF THE COFFEE ORGANIZATION COULD POSSIBLY BE GIVEN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THE STUDY IN HAITI. VANDERSTEEN MAY BE AN EXCELLENT CANDIDATE, AS COULD SOMEONE WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE CAISSE DE STABILISATION SYSTEM AS PRACTICED IN WEST AFRICA.

4. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE U.S. DELEGATE (YORK) APPROACH BELTRAO TO DEVELOP THE NAME OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MAY TAKE ON THIS ASSIGNMENT. BECAUSE OF THE SHORT DEADLINE INVOLVED, A REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP. WHILE AID HAD EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR AN LDC EXPERT, THE REACTION TO VANDERSTEEN IS FAVORABLE.

5. FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING DATES, SALARY AND ARRANGEMENTS WILL FOLLOW BY SEPERATE COMMUNICATION. KISSINGER

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